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Customer No.: 31561
Application No.: 10/604,173
Docket No.: 10873-US-PA**REMARKS**

This is a full and timely response to the outstanding First Office Action mailed April 26, 2007. Reconsideration and allowance of the application and the presently pending claims, as amended, are respectfully requested.

Present Status of the Application

Upon entry of the amendments in this response, Claims 4-15 remain pending in the present application. Claims 4-8, 10-13 and 15 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Kihara et al., US 5,889,504 (hereinafter Kihara). Claims 9 and 14 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Kihara.

Further, the Examiner held that Kihara taught of the shift register groups (11-14) having redundant shift registers in Figs. 4 and 7 and concluded that the claims of the present application did not preclude having S1 as in Kihara reference.

Accordingly, Applicants make amendments to the pending claims and further add new Claims 16-18 based on the circuit diagram of FIG. 3 and original filed specification of the present application and Claims 19-20 based on the circuit diagram of FIG. 4 and original filed specification of the present application. No new matter is involved herein.

Applicants respectfully traverse the above-mentioned rejections of the respective claims and would like to argue against the rejections in the following.

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Response to Claim Rejections Under U.S.C. 35 §102(b)

Claims 4-8, 10-13, 15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Kihara et al. (US Patent No. 5,889,504).

Applicants further amend Claims 4 and 10 this time to clearly define both the disposition and the coupling relationship between the redundant stages and the (adjacent) first driving stages. It is stated that the redundant stages are electrically coupled to adjacent first driving stages in serial. Furthermore, each of the redundant stage has a second driving stage installed with a redundant device in parallel. In the paragraph [0027], In summary, the present invention adds the redundant device in parallel with the original circuit (second driving stage), and by using the configuration of separately disposing the redundant devices, so as to reduce the problem of the broken circuit in the general driving stage, and also reduce the short circuit problem that is additionally caused by disposing redundant devices in all driving stages. Therefore, the present invention is capable of reducing the circuit malfunction problem due to the broken circuit in one aspect, and also capable of reducing the short circuit problem due to the redundant devices are installed in all driving stages. Thus, the amendments sufficiently and distinctly differentiate the instant application from the Kihara reference by their different structures.

In the present application, two adjacent redundant stages are separately disposed, and coupled in serial via a first driving stage, and thus is capable of reducing the short circuit problem due to the redundant devices are installed in all driving stages. Whereas, in Kihara, all redundant devices (e.g., the right redundant shift registers SR4) are directly

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coupled in serial, and to a next redundant stage (SR4), as shown in Figure 7. Therefore, Kihara would meet the short circuit problem due to the redundant stages (SR4) are directly coupled in serial. This problem in Kihara can be overcome by the present invention.

Applicants respectfully submit that the currently amended Claims 4 and 10 distinctly distinguish the present application from Kihara and the rejections of Claims 4 and 10 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) are believed to be thus overcome. Withdrawal of the rejections and allowance of the claims are respectfully requested.

If Claims 4 and 10 are allowable, Claims 6-8, 12-13 and 15 (Claims 5 and 11 deleted) are also allowable as dependent claims as a matter of law.

Response to Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. §103

As to claims 9 and 14...it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the [art] to have realized that more than four transistors could be integrated into the driving stage since the switch circuit or the invertors could also include transistors.

Further to the amendments to the independent Claims 4 and 10, Applicants add new Claims 16-18 and 19-20 to define the structures of the first driving stage and the second driving stage and clearly state the coupling relationships of the transistors within each of the first and second driving stages including those transistors previously mentioned in Claims 9 and 14. Since Claims 16-18 and 19-20 are derived from the

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circuit diagrams of FIGs. 3 and 4 in the present application respectively, Applicants hereby assert that no new matter is believed to be added by the new claims.

With the further limitations set forth in the new Claims 16-20, Applicants respectfully submit that Kihara does not teach, demonstrate or suggest the present application, and that the rejections of Claims 9 and 14 under 35 U.S. C. §103(a) should be overcome and not longer stand formal.

In view of the foregoing, Applicants respectfully state that Claims 4-20 have been thus amended to place the instant application in proper condition for allowance.

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CONCLUSION

In light of the foregoing arguments, Applicants respectfully submit that all rejections have been rendered moot, and therefore the currently pending Claims 4-20 are placed in proper condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and allowance of the present application and all the pending claims are hereby courteously requested.

If, in the opinion of the Examiner, a telephonic conference would expedite the examination of the above-identified application, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned.

Date: *July 26, 2007*

Respectfully submitted,

Belinda Lee
Belinda Lee
Registration No.: 46,863

Jianq Chyun Intellectual Property Office
7th Floor-1, No. 100
Roosevelt Road, Section 2
Taipei, 100
Taiwan
Tel: 011-886-2-2369-2800
Fax: 011-886-2-2369-7233
Email: belinda@jciigroup.com.tw ; usa@jciigroup.com.tw